

### REMARKS

Claim 9 is allowed.

Claim 8 has been rejected as anticipated by Kaneko et al. under 35 USC § 102(e). Reconsideration of this rejection is requested in light of the foregoing amendment.

The Examiner correctly notes that Kaneko et al. describes a system in which a longer duration period of fuel injection occurs when the catalytic converter temperature decreases and is shorter as the temperature rises. This is different from the invention of Claim 8 as illustrated in Figs. 19, 20A and 20B, where the interval between auxiliary fuel injection increases at a catalyst temperature lower than a predetermined value. In contrast to Kaneko et al.'s system where complicate torque compensations are needed by way of ignition timing control with injecting duration correcting factors, the invention of Claim 8 avoids the need for such compensations by controlling the interval between auxiliary fuel injection. No such concept is suggested in the Kaneko et al. documents. } ←

Accordingly, early and favorable action is requested.

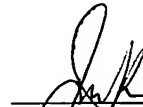
If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and

please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit  
Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #381AS/49702DV).

Respectfully submitted,

September 29, 2003



---

James F. McKeown  
Registration No. 25,406

CROWELL & MORING, LLP  
P.O. Box 14300  
Washington, DC 20044-4300  
Telephone No.: (202) 624-2500  
Facsimile No.: (202) 628-8844

JFM/acd  
056203.49702DV